

IN THE DRAWINGS:

A Letter to the Official Draftsman is attached with proposed drawing corrections to Figures 1-4.

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1-4. These sheets, which include Figs. 1-3, replace the original sheets of Figs. 1-4.

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-5 (5 as understood) were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Junichi (JP '371) in view of Kenji (JP '239).

By the above amendments, the subject matter filed with the original application papers and having a cover sheet entitled "International Preliminary Examination Report (IPER) Amendments" have been incorporated into original application pages 1-27. These amendments were made at the international stage and should have been considered with the examination of the captioned application. Accordingly, original claims 1 and 4 were cancelled, and of the claim amendments to independent claims 2 and 3, these amendments have been incorporated into new independent claims 6 and 7 with additional amendments.

Independent claims 6 and 7 include a combustion-gas seal of a fuel injection system of the present invention including two resin seal rings. One of the two resin seal rings is a main seal ring arranged at a position far from a tip side of a fuel injection valve, and the other is a heat-resistant ring arranged at a position

near the tip side of the fuel injection valve. The main seal has an elastic recovering feature.

In response to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in the Office Action:

(a) The two seals 18 of the Junichi reference are metal rings having a cut portion (see Figure 2).

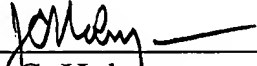
(b) A radial clearance 20 is provided between the seal ring 18 and the shaft part 4 for absorbing the vibration of the cylinder head 2 and the deviation of axis position between the inserting hole 25 and the seal ring 18 (these matters are described in the specification of the Junichi reference). That is, the two seals 18 of Junichi have no such elastically recovering feature as the main seal of the present invention.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application should now be in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is in order, and such favorable action and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

However, if after reviewing the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner has any questions or comments, she is cordially invited to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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